

## W9/L MARY AUGUSTA WALKER

<http://eprints.utas.edu.au/10958/>

Mary Augusta Walker (1856-1952), daughter of G. W. Walker, was a governess and teacher of drawing, French and Italian. She studied art in Melbourne and at the Slade and Herkomer Schools in London and in Paris. She was sometimes called "Doo", "Doodey" or "Old Bird" and once or twice Polly by her brothers and sisters.

Link to [Digitised material held in the Library Open Repository](#)

### W9/ L CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- 1 Sarah B. Walker to daughter Mary ND [1888-9]

Advised Mary not to leave Mrs G[atenby] but to teach the children another 6 months (1880); Benson cousins (ND)

- 2 James B. Walker to sister Mary 1879- 1898

Addressed to Mary or "dear old Bird" or "dear old Doo" or "Doodey" with news of the family, life in Hobart etc.:-

1-2 1879, 1881, June-Dec. 1883, Dec. 1884

News of family: George working in pharmacy (1 May '81). Mary's painting- taking lessons from Mme Moochette in Melbourne, family history; Hobart: Chiniquy riots (5 July 1879), flood (17 Nov. 81), diptheria (1 Dec. 81); the Ladies' College; books and periodicals; friends: Poppie Clarke to open night school (1 May 81); New Zealand visit (Dec. 1884) **(13 docs.)**

3 1886-1887, Jan. 1888

Photographs from New Zealand to Johnsons, train accident, family, health –dentures fitted by Rodway, theatricals, the Ladies' College - Sarah's school holidays, boarders to Fentree, Latin lessons. (23 Oct. 87), typhoid, friends: old Mrs Meredith won court case (Dec. 87), Clarkes, Walch, Gibsons, Adye Douglas (Dec. 87), tennis (23 Oct. 87), skating rink (Oct. 87), Sunday School, photography (Dec.87), Piguinit to visit R.M. Johnson, visit to New Zealand (Jan. 1888) **(8 docs.)**

4-7 1889-1892

Mary in U.K. studying art: recommendations of Slade School and Herkomer School of Art Nov. 1890), extra years tuition (19 Apr.91), progress at Paris studio (Feb. 92); news from Hobart: welcome for Bishop Montgomery (Oct. 89), shipping strike (Aug. 1890), West Coast trip (Nov. 90); brief references to papers for Royal Society of Tasmania and legal practice work embezzlement by Cutmear at office (25 Sept. Oct.92); Australian Association for

Science meeting in Melbourne - 1.B.W. one of representatives of Royal Society of Tasmania, description of Baron von Mueller President (Jan, 1890); Ladies College: prize giving- Lady Hamilton in Chair (Dec.90). Arrival of Miss Piper new principal (Jan.90); to church to hear Rev. Clarke (20 Sept 91); influenza (8 Nov. 91) -eucalyptus oil good for it (Feb.92); diphtheria (Mar.92); Art Association (11 Mar,15 Nov. 6 Dec.91); likenesses being sent for Mary's birthday (28 Nov. 91); preparing lantern lecture on Old Hobart for Science Association next month (Dec. 91); Piguenit at Johnsons (3 Jan. 92); VDL Bank case (Feb. 92); trip to Adventure Bay (Apr.92); University: lecturers appointed (June 92), BA scheme, exam papers stopped by Customs (21 June 91), old High School building for (June 92); redecoration of Bank (Jan.91); family: little Mother at Kangaroo Point, getting feeble (92).

W9/L2 4 1889(27 docs.)

5 1890(34 docs.)

6 1891(38 docs.) <http://eprints.utas.edu.au/20041/> &

<http://eprints.utas.edu.au/20043/> & <http://eprints.utas.edu.au/20042/> &  
<http://eprints.utas.edu.au/20045/> & <http://eprints.utas.edu.au/20044/>

7 1892(27 docs.) <http://eprints.utas.edu.au/20831/> &

<http://eprints.utas.edu.au/20841/>

8-9 Miscellaneous travels 1894, 1898

8 1894 Visit to N.S.W. and Melbourne (1)

9 1898 Drawing paper, friends, family, New Zealand, Sarah ill in England, gas  
Upstairs and verandah with bathroom and h. and c.

3 Elizabeth A. Walker to sister Mary 1889- 1892

Addressed to Polly or Mary (3docs.)

4 Sarah T. Walker to sister Mary 1873 · 1898

Letters about family, friends, school, etc. including: Port Arthur and Bushy Park visits, Gatenby children at Rhodes, Longford (1873-7; Miss Giblin's Hobart, clothes, chess, tennis, Minnie Clarke, child Gertie (niece), advice to Mary on packing for Melbourne visit, Mrs Thomas Giblin wanted governess for Mabel- Mary should do it (1880-1); Gatenbys, "tableaux" at Government House (1887), Ladies College (1889); school (1895); England, visit to Maggie Benson DSc. at Royal Holloway College and dinner on high table (1898).

1 1873-1877

2 1880-81, 1883, 1887

3 1889

- 4 1890
- 5 1891
- 6 1892
- 7 11 July 1896
- 8 1898 from England
- 9 undated

5 Margaret B. Walker to sister Mary May. June 1870

6 Isabella F. Walker to sister Mary 1879-1892, 1898, 1905

7 Letters received from relatives 1871 • 1908

1 J. Benson Walker 19 Aug. 1871

Harrington Park, Narellan: Melbourne mails, London yearly Meeting, English relatives, cloth, travels, visited vineyard-trouble with opossums eating the oranges and lemons.

2 Bernard Walker, nephew, 19 Mar. 1905

M.A.W.'s pictures, Allan Gould in architect's office, B.W. and Ursula passed Sydney Technical School exams (art, carpentry etc.)- architecture student

3 Ursula Walker, niece ND [? 1888]

Letter to Aunt when child beginning to learn to write.

4 Dorothy Robson, cousin 13 Mar. 1883

Newcastle N.S.W.: health stronger- can use needle again, sister Cecily has cancer, cousins.

5 Ethel B. Benson, cousin 28 May 1892

Shrewsbury UK: invitation to visit, letter from Paris received a month later.

8 Letters from friends:

1-3 Georgina Lady Gormanston 1897

Government House: pictures - collecting, hanging and returning, invitation to lunch, Hamilton Sketching Club. (3 docs)

4-7 E. Harvey 1871-1872, 1875

Hamilton, Victoria: travels, religion (Quaker); Ireland: voyage, Waterford, shipping, religion. (4 docs.)

8-15 Claude W. Johns 1882-1883, 1885

Horton College: teaching - miserable, friends, death of 2 boys (14 Oct 82), comet (14 Oct.82), returning home (1883); Paston Grammar School, North Walsham UK: collecting stamps, school "howlers", biblical history, family, friends (1885) (8 docs.)

16 Herbert Lillies ND [1880s]

Received cheque, sorry her trip over marred by unpleasant illness, regards to Dr. Payne but don't impart her opinion of Hl....as medical practitioner.

17 Maude ? 11 July 1886

"Little Isa"; Ragged School: distribution of clothing, essays on cruelty to animals; BoysClub discipline, night school boy killed by machinery at the Mercury , Belle Travers married Learmonth; Leslie Giblin died; requests elementary work on anatomy.

18 Louisa Meredith ND

Brighton Lodge: pictures, Dr. James' children, grandmother ill.

19 Maud Montgomery 15 Oct ND [1893-1900] Bishopscourt: meeting of "Itinerants".

20 Girolamo Pieri Nerli 1886

Sydney: art (in Italian)

## 9 Letters from artists and English friends

Letters from friends met while studying art in London, including many references to the work of women painters and sculptors, the Royal Academy exhibitions and "Varnishing Day" (the day appointed by the Royal academy when artists could retouch and varnish their works before the opening of the annual exhibition). Also from Australian and family friends in UK.

**1 M. J. Backhouse 13 June ND [1890-92]**

Scotland: West Coast, when M.A.W. goes to York could she bring example of her work.

**2 Herbert B. Bell ND (copy)**

Mr Brien deceased - no relatives, widow resides Addiscombe House, Norwood.

**3 James Bonwick 2 June 1892**

Solicitous advice on M.A.W.'s winter in France- exhorts high standards, Italy preferable.

**4 A.H.C-----1 23 Dec. ND [1890s]**

Bart's [Hospital], Dowling's "interesting cases" on the boat, visit to Maces, Lyndhurst [Giblin].

**5-6 Minnie B. C[lark?] 1889, 1890**

Letter from M.A.W. to Minnie: studying osteology for drawing technique, river trip, National gallery, London (1885); Letter to Mary from M.B.C.: home [Hobart] after 5 months, Lady Hamilton, Literary Society, concerts. (2 docs.)

**7-10 Esther ? [1892-] 1894**

Sketching, weather, Mary's return to Paris, farewell visit, friends, Bushey, English hedges, Art School and fellow students, Whistler, Colin Hunter, R.L. Stevenson's books. (4docs)

**11 L.F.Giblin 30 July 1892**

UK: South Downs, Thames, M.A.W. never keen on England, The Academy, art exhibitions.

**12-15 Margot ? 1907**

London: arrived in cold weather, brother's cottage in Swrey, lovely in London, Isle of Wight. Addressed to "Cara Maria". (3 docs.)

**16-17 Annie V. Mason ND [1896-8?]**

UK: going to Paris, Sal. better, New English An Club: "Man with yellow glove" by C.H.

Shannon, Sargeant's picture at Royal Academy, Heather at Slade School of Art, the Stephens. (2 docs)

**18-23 Heather [Mason] 1907- 1908**

Reading UK: sculpture, bronze relief accepted for Royal Academy, "Varnishing Day"- medal well placed, Australian artists did well, medal from R.A. gone to Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, "Beaux Arts" Paris • relief of Kit, Mary's silhouettes fashionable; exams for British Dairy Farmers Certificate for Butter-making- bacteriology examiner, churning in Royal Counties show; Kit's music pupils. (6 docs.)

**24-27 Tom Mason Apr.-Oct. 1907**

Sale of M.A.W.'s picture show- account in Mercury, other art exhibitions, silhouettes- method of making and reducing, Heather not given up sculpture, she won MacMillan Essay Prize and first at Royal Counties Show for butter making, certificate from British Dairy Farmers Association , bacteriology of milk. (4 docs)

**28-29 Arthur R. Pontifex** 1906, 1907

Sale of M.A.W.'s Milton and Dickens books. (2docs.)

**30-32 Rebecca P.Scott** 1907

Harrie, Theodore, French books, religion, RC.Church, excavations in Rome by signor Boni, Esther going to Tyrol with Arnold, death of friend, artists (2 docs.)

**33-34 Mary A. Sloane** 1892

Bushey: the Herkomer School, new studios being built, 100 students, sketching, literature, Miss Hawood, Denovan Adams animal painting studio, Augustus Spencer head of Leicester School of Art. anarchists, Browning. (2 docs.)

**35 H. C. Lorimer (5 Mar 1893)**

Paris, sculpture class, British Club, her rooms in a girls' school, the Boissy D'Anglais Exhibition.

**36-37 H.C. Thurn (?nee Lorimer) 1895, 1896**

British Guiana: art, far from art centre, brother's paintings honoured in Paris and Luxemburg, M.A.W. doing well. (2 docs.)

## MISCELLANEOUS

10 Art School 1888, 1890-1892

Testimonial from Arthur Loureiro, Kew, Victoria 23 Mar 1888; admission ticket to Fine Art class University College (part tom); Herkomer School: student card 1890-91; letter from Herbert Herkomer recommending students to exhibit in Fine Art Society Exhibition next year, especially figure work, commission reduced for students, letter printed but signed ms. June 1891; receipts for fees Sept. 1890, Jan. 1891; Berry Art School Swiss Cottage advertisement.

11 Mary Augusta Walker, literary notes and extracts (1890)